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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER HUANG, WEIN WU				
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/562,348

Applicant(s)

LUERS, JURGEN

Examiner

WEN W. HUANG

Art Unit

2618

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 March 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 13-21, 24-26 and 28-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 13-21, 24-26 and 28-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SF/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-12, 22, 23, 27, 32 and 33 are canceled.

Claims 13-21, 24-26 and 28-31 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 13-18, 24-26, 28 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kotzin (US Pub No. 2004/0204076 A1) in view of

Regarding **claim 13**, Kotzin teaches a telecommunications terminal (see Kotzin, fig. 1, subscriber device 103) having a user interaction function adapted to establish telecommunications connections (see Kotzin, fig. 2, user interface 211, para. [0013]), comprising:

a local-area transceiver (see Kotzin, fig. 2, LAN transceiver 209) adapted for wireless traffic between the telecommunications terminal and a plurality of external gateways (see Kotzin, para. [0016], lines 4-6, establishing connections with external devices), each external gateway providing access to a communications network (see Kotzin, para. [0029], lines 1-13);

a display device adapted for displaying information about a plurality of external gateways within range of the local-area transceiver (see Kotzin, fig. 2, display 217, fig. 4, step 417 and para. [0029], lines 7-13, a plurality of determinations of device availability 413-415 are monitored/initiated, then displayed at step 417);

a selection unit (see Kotzin, fig. 2, keypad 215) adapted to select one of the plurality of external gateways displayed by the display device in order to communicate with the respective communications network via the selected gateway (see Kotzin, fig. 4 step 419, para. [0029], lines 11-16).

Kotzin is silent to teaching that wherein absence of displayed information about a particular one of the external gateways on the display device indicates that said particular one of the external gateways is not within range of the telecommunications terminal. However, the claimed limitation is well known in the art as evidenced by Mooney.

In the same field of endeavor, Mooney teaches a telecommunications terminal wherein absence of displayed information about a particular one of the external gateways on the display device indicates that said particular one of the external gateways is not within range of the telecommunications terminal (see Mooney, col. 6, lines 55-61).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teaching of Kotzin with the teaching of Mooney in order to indicate whether a mobile station is within a communication range or not (see Mooney, col. 1, lines 20-27).

Regarding **claim 14**, the combination of Kotzin and Mooney also teaches the telecommunications terminal according to claim 13, wherein the local-area transceiver is adapted according to a Bluetooth standard having loadware adapted for connecting to the gateway (see Kotzin, para. [0015], lines 5-6 and 15-19).

Regarding **claim 15**, the combination of Kotzin and Mooney also teaches the telecommunications terminal according to claim 13, wherein the local-area transceiver is adapted according to a wireless LAN having loadware adapted for connecting to the gateway (see Kotzin, para. [0015], lines 5-6 and 15-19).

Regarding **claim 16**, the combination of Kotzin and Mooney also teaches the telecommunications terminal according to claim 13, further comprising a user-data memory (see Kotzin, memory 227) that stores connection-data records, each record having of a predetermined connection that can be established between one of the external gateway and the telecommunications terminal (see Kotzin, fig. 2, connection est. 237; para. [0016], lines 4-6), wherein information about external gateways within range of the local-area transceiver defined by at least one of the stored data records is displayed for selection (see Kotzin, fig. 4, step 417, displaying availability of detected external devices from step 403, para. [0028-0029]).

Regarding **claim 17**, the combination of Kotzin and Mooney also teaches the telecommunications terminal according to claim 16, further comprising an authentication-data input (see Kotzin, fig. 2, keypad 215) for inputting an authentication data of a user (see Kotzin, para. [0021], lines 1-3; "device profile"), the data authentication-data interfacing with the local-area transceiver for transmitting the authentication data to the gateway (see Kotzin, para. [0021], lines 9-20),

wherein the external gateway determines from the authentication data if the terminal is authorized to establish the connection via the gateway (see Kotzin, para. [0021-0022]), and

wherein information about important ones of the external gateways within range of the local-area transceiver that have authorized the terminal to establish the connection is displayed for selection (see Kotzin, fig. 4, step 417, displaying availability of detected external devices from step 403, para. [0028-0029]).

Regarding **claim 18**, the combination of Kotzin and Mooney also teaches the telecommunications terminal according to claim 17, further comprising a processor and memory (see Kotzin, fig. 2, processor 208 and memory 227) to provide PDA functionality that is independent of the telecommunications functions (see Kotzin, para. [0026], lines 12-15, platform independent language).

Regarding **claim 24**, the combination of Kotzin and Mooney also teaches the telecommunications terminal according to claim 17, wherein the authentication data

includes information of a telecommunication terminal authorized to establish the connection to the wireless network via the terminal (see Kotzin, para. [0021]).

Regarding **claim 25**, the combination of Kotzin and Mooney also teaches the telecommunications terminal 13, wherein the display of the plurality of external gateways within range of the local-area transceiver (see Kotzin, fig. 4, display step 417) includes a cost of using the respective gateway to establish the telecommunication connection (see Kotzin, para. [0029], lines 3-7).

Regarding **claim 26**, the combination of Kotzin and Mooney teaches the telecommunications terminal according to claim 13 comprises an internal gateway (see Kotzin, fig. 2, WAN transceiver 203 and controller 207) for connecting to a mobile radio communications network (see Kotzin, fig. 1, WAN wireless connection 109; para. [0012], lines 7-10).

Regarding **claim 30**, the combination of Kotzin and Mooney also teaches the telecommunications terminal according to claim 13, wherein the user interface comprises a display device (see Herring, fig. 2, base station 102c, col. 4, lines 40-43).

Regarding **claim 28**, Kotzin teaches a telecommunications terminal (see Kotzin, fig. 1, subscriber device 103) having a user interaction function adapted to establish a

plurality of telecommunications connections (see Kotzin, fig. 2, user interface 211, para. [0013], WAN and LAN), comprising:

a local-area transceiver (see Kotzin, fig. 2, LAN transceiver 209) adapted for wireless traffic between the telecommunications terminal and a plurality of external gateways (see Kotzin, para. [0016], lines 4-6, establishing connections with external devices), each external gateway providing access to a communications network (see Kotzin, para. [0029], lines 1-13);

a display device adapted for displaying current availability information about a plurality of external gateways within range of the local-area transceiver (see Kotzin, fig. 2, display 217, fig. 4, step 417 and para. [0029], lines 7-13);

a selection unit (see Kotzin, fig. 2, keypad 215) adapted to select one of the plurality of external gateways displayed by the display device in order to establish the telecommunication connection to the respective communications network via the selected gateway (see Kotzin, fig. 4 step 419, para. [0029], lines 11-16); and

an internal gateway (see Kotzin, fig. 2, WAN transceiver 203 and controller 207) for connecting to a mobile radio communications network (see Kotzin, fig. 1, WAN wireless connection 109; para. [0012], lines 7-10); and

a user-data memory (see Kotzin, memory 227) that stores connection-data records of plurality of predetermined connections which can be established with the external gateways and an internal gateway (see Kotzin, fig. 2, connection est. 237; para. [0016], lines 4-6).

Kotzin is silent to teaching that wherein absence of displayed current availability information about a particular one of the external gateways on the display device indicates that said particular one of the external gateways is not within a communication range of the telecommunications terminal. However, the claimed limitation is well known in the art as evidenced by Mooney.

In the same field of endeavor, Mooney teaches a telecommunications terminal wherein absence of displayed information about a particular one of the external gateways on the display device indicates that said particular one of the external gateways is not within range of the telecommunications terminal (see Mooney, col. 6, lines 55-61).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teaching of Kotzin with the teaching of Mooney in order to indicate whether a mobile station is within a communication range or not (see Mooney, col. 1, lines 20-27).

2. Claim 29 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kotzin and Mooney as applied to claim 13 above, and further in view of Alberti (US. 7,343,156 B2).

Regarding **claim 29**, the combination of Kotzin and Mooney teaches the telecommunications terminal according claim 13.

The combination of Kotzin and Mooney is silent to teaching that wherein the user interface comprises an input device. However, the claimed limitation is well known in the art as evidenced by Alberti.

In the same field of endeavor, Alberti teach at least one of the external gateways excludes an input device (see Alberti, col. 2, lines 25-28).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teaching of Kotzin and Mooney with the teaching of Alberti in order to provide security to the wireless network (see Alberti, col. 2, lines 28-30).

3. Claim 31 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kotzin and Mooney as applied to claim 13 above, and further in view of Pradhan et al. (US. 6,968,178 B2; hereinafter "Pradhan")

Regarding **claims 31**, the combination of Kotzin and Mooney teaches the telecommunications terminal according to claim 13.

The combination of Kotzin and Mooney is silent to teaching that wherein the local-area transceiver directly exchanging voice traffic with a local area transceiver of a similar telecommunications terminal without the intermediate connection of an external network. However, the claimed limitation is well known in the art as evidenced by Pradhan.

In the same field of endeavor, Pradhan teaches a telecommunications assembly (see Pradhan, fig. 1) wherein the local-area transceiver (see Pradhan, fig. 1, MS 10 and 12; 14a and 14b; col. 9, lines 20-38) directly exchanging voice (see Pradhan, col. 4, lines 6-7) traffic with a local are transceiver of a similar telecommunications terminal without the intermediate connection of an external network (see Pradhan, fig. 2, Bluetooth 34, col. 10, lines 8-11).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teaching Kotzin and Mooney with the teaching of Pradhan in order to provide free voice communication between terminals via short range connections (see Pradhan, col. 4, lines 10-11).

4. Claims 19 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kotzin in view of Pradhan et al. (US. 6,968,178 B2; hereinafter "Pradhan") and Mooney.

Regarding **claim 19**, Kotzin teaches a telecommunications assembly (see Kotzin, fig. 1, subscriber device 103 and notebook 113), comprising:

a telecommunications terminal (subscriber device 103) having a user interaction function adapted to establish a plurality of telecommunications connections (see Kotzin, fig. 2, user interface 211, para. [0013], WAN 203 and LAN 209), comprising:

a signaling mechanism adapted for signaling incoming calls to the selected connection (see Kotzin, fig. 2, speaker 219);

an input device adapted for inputting outgoing messages and a telecommunications connections data (see Kotzin, fig. 2, keypad 215, microphone 221);

a display device adapted for displaying incoming messages (see Kotzin, fig. 2, display 217) and information on current availability of each of the plurality of telecommunications connections (see Kotzin, fig. 2, display 217, fig. 4, step 417 and para. [0029], lines 7-13, a plurality of determinations of device availability 413-415 are monitored/initiated, then displayed at a single step 417);

a local-area transceiver (see Kotzin, fig. 2, LAN transceiver 209) adapted for wireless traffic between the telecommunications terminal and an external gateway (see Kotzin, fig. 1, notebook 113) for establishing the telecommunications connection (see Kotzin, fig. 1, wireless LAN connection 111; para. [0012], lines 22-23, PSTN 125);

an internal gateway (see Kotzin, fig. 2, WAN transceiver 203 and controller 207), for connecting to a mobile radio communications network (see Kotzin, fig. 1, WAN wireless connection 109; para. [0012], lines 7-10) and for interfacing to the selection mechanism (see Kotzin, fig. 2, keypad), the signaling mechanism (speaker), the input device (microphone), and the output device (display), wherein the telecommunications terminal is configured as a mobile-radio-communications terminal (see Kotzin, para. [0012], lines 3-5), and

an authentication-data input mechanism allowing an authentication-data input (see Kotzin, fig. 2, keypad 215), the authentication-data input mechanism interfacing with the local-area transceiver for transmitting the authentication data (see Kotzin, para. [0021], lines 1-3; "device profile"; para. [0021], lines 9-20); and

a plurality of external gateways (see Kotzin, para. [0016], lines 4-6, external devices), each (see Kotzin, fig. 1, notebook 113), comprising:

a local-area transceiver (see Kotzin, fig. 3, LAN transceiver 303; para. [0017], lines 14-18) adapted to receive transmission from telecommunications terminal including the authentication-data input (see Kotzin, fig. 1, LAN wireless connection 111); and

an access control mechanism (see Kotzin, para. [0022], lines 1-2; security firewall) adapted to block traffic to an unauthorized telecommunications terminal based on the authentication-data input and to release traffic to an authorized telecommunications terminal based on the authentication-data input (see Kotzin, para. [0021], lines 9-20 and para. [0022], lines 1-16).

Kotzin is silent to teaching that

wherein each local-area transceiver for a plurality of the telecommunication terminal s are configured for directly exchanging voice traffic with each other without the intermediate connection of an external network, and

wherein absence of displayed information on the display device of the telecommunications terminal about a particular external gateway or a particular other telecommunications terminal indicates that said particular external gateway or particular other telecommunications terminal is not within range of the telecommunications terminal. However, the claimed limitation is well known in the art as evidenced by Pradhan and Mooney.

In the same field of endeavor, Pradhan teaches a telecommunications assembly (see Pradhan, fig. 1) wherein each local-area transceiver for a plurality of the telecommunication terminals (see Pradhan, fig. 1, MS 10 and 12; 14a and 14b; col. 9, lines 20-38) are configured for directly exchanging voice (see Pradhan, col. 4, lines 6-7) traffic with each other without the intermediate connection of an external network (see Pradhan, fig. 2, Bluetooth 34, col. 10, lines 8-11).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teaching Kotzin with the teaching of Pradhan in order to provide free voice communication between terminals via short range connections (see Pradhan, col. 4, lines 10-11).

The combination of Kotzin and Pradhan is silent to teaching that wherein absence of displayed information on the display device of the telecommunications terminal about a particular external gateway or a particular other telecommunications terminal indicates that said particular external gateway or particular other telecommunications terminal is not within range of the telecommunications terminal.

In the same field of endeavor, Mooney teaches a telecommunications terminal wherein absence of displayed information on the display device of the telecommunications terminal about a particular external gateway or a particular other telecommunications terminal indicates that said particular external gateway or particular other telecommunications terminal is not within range of the telecommunications terminal (see Mooney, col. 6, lines 55-61).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teaching of Kotzin and Pradhan with the teaching of Mooney in order to indicate whether a mobile station is within a communication range or not (see Mooney, col. 1, lines 20-27).

Regarding **claim 21**, the combination of Kotzin, Pradhan and Mooney also teaches the telecommunications assembly according to claim 19, wherein the local-area transceiver includes a threshold discriminator (see Kotzin, fig. 2, antenna of the LAN transceiver 209) for detecting an entry into the radio transmission range of an telecommunications terminal (see Kotzin, fig. 4, step 403 "detecting external device"), the threshold discriminator is operatively connected to a communications-start control device (see Kotzin, fig. 2, controller 207) for initiating a communications start procedure with the telecommunications terminal after entering into the radio transmission range (see Kotzin, fig. 4, step 409 to 423; para. [0029]).

5. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kotzin, Pradhan and Mooney as applied to claim 19 above, and further in view of Herring et al. (US. 7,177,287 B1; hereinafter "Herring") and Alberti.

Regarding **claim 20**, the combination of Kotzin and Pradhan also teaches the telecommunications assembly according to claim 19.

The combination of Kotzin, Pradhan and Mooney is silent to teaching that wherein the external gateway excludes a signaling mechanism, an input device and a display device. However, the claimed limitation is well known in the art as evidenced by Herring and Alberti.

In the same field of endeavor, Herring teaches a telecommunications terminal (see Herring, fig. 2, PDA 100, col. 4, lines 21-39) wherein at least one of the external gateways excludes a signaling mechanism and a display device (see Herring, fig. 2, base station 102c, col. 4, lines 40-43).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teaching of Kotzin, Pradhan and Mooney with the teaching of Herring in order to supporting concurrent voice and data communications via cost efficient access points for the wireless LAN (see Herring, col. 2, lines 21-25 and col. 4, lines 43-44).

The combination of Kotzin, Pradhan, Mooney and Herring is silent to teaching that wherein the external gateway excludes an input device. However, the claimed limitation is well known in the art as evidenced by Alberti.

In the same field of endeavor, Alberti teach at least one of the external gateways excludes an input device (see Alberti, col. 2, lines 25-28).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teaching of Kotzin, Pradhan, Mooney and Herring with the teaching of Alberti in order to provide security to the wireless network (see Alberti, col. 2, lines 28-30).

6. Claim 27 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kotzin, Pradhan and Mooney as applied to claim 19 above, and further in view of Wilcock.

Regarding **claim 27**, the combination of Kotzin, Pradhan and Mooney teaches the telecommunications terminal according to claim 19.

The combination of Kotzin, Pradhan and Mooney is silent to teaching that wherein the internal gateway acts as an external gateway to a further telecommunications terminal. However, the claimed limitation is well known in the art as evidenced by Wilcock.

In the field of endeavor, Wilcock teaches a telecommunications terminal (see Wilcock, fig. 11, cell phone 20) wherein the internal gateway (see Wilcock, fig. 11, Radio 22) acts as an external gateway to a further telecommunications terminal (see Wilcock, fig. 11, PLMN 10; camera 90, I/F 96 and 97).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teaching of Kotzin, Pradhan and Mooney with the teaching of Wilcock in order to utilize data bearer services of cellular radio network (see Wilcock, col. 2, lines 9-14).

Response to Arguments

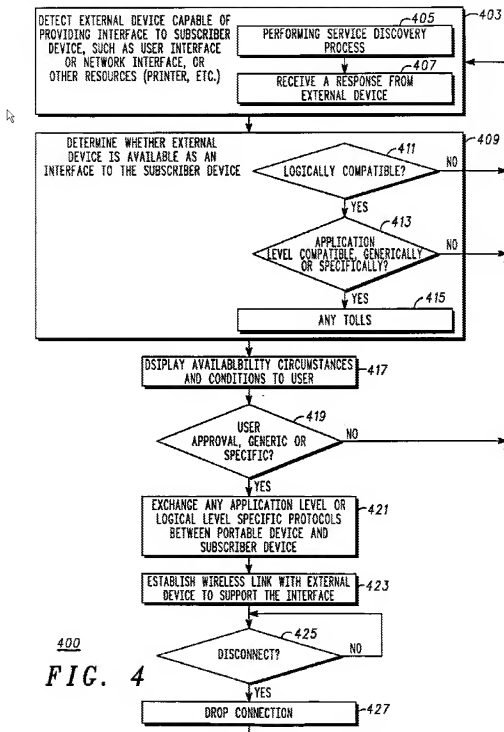
1) Applicant's arguments with respect to the 112 rejection have been considered but are moot in view of the amendment.

Furthermore, Applicant replies on specification para. 0021, 0034 and 0035 for the interpretation of the limitation "a display device adapted for displaying information about a plurality of external gateways within range of the local-area transceiver". However, the Examiner submits that limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

More specifically, the Examiner submits that the broadest reasonable interpretation is given to the limitation "a display device adapted for displaying information about a plurality of external gateways within range of the local-area transceiver" in accordance to MPEP 2111.

2) Applicant argues that Kotzin, box 409 of FIG 4 indicates "determine whether external is available", where "device" is singular. Step 413 does not return to step 407 to search for additional devices if the device is available, so this flow chart cannot find more than one available device. Essentially, Applicant argues that Kotzin displays information about only a single external gateway within range. However, the Examiner respectfully disagrees.

More specifically, the Examiner would like to point out fig. 4 of Kotzin:



As shown above, the process returns to detecting external device step 403 after the user disapproves the available detected device. Therefore, the Examiner submits that the process does return to detecting external device step 403.

Furthermore, the Examiner submits that Kotzin displays information about a plurality of external gateways within range of the local-area transceiver because Kotzin explicitly teaches:

[0016] As depicted and among others the memory includes routines that represent resource discovery 233, including detecting and receiving responses from external resources (plurality of responses), determining resource availability 235, establishing and maintaining connections 237 with external devices (from plurality of external device/gateway) or resources, and exchanging appropriate protocols 239 with such devices or resources. The reader will appreciate that this listing is merely a brief listing of exemplary routines that will be required or advantageous in effecting an interface between the subscriber device and an external device and that other and various optional routines and applications that may be stored in the memory have not been mentioned.

[0017] Briefly in operation the portable subscriber device 103 will find, locate, or otherwise discover suitable external devices (a plurality of external devices), establish connections therewith and route appropriate messages to and receive corresponding communications from such devices and resources either volitionally or as initiated and at the discretion of the user. When external devices and resources are being utilized the corresponding internal devices may be disabled or there operation modified to account for the external utility. Referring to FIG. 3 a block diagram of an exemplary external device 113, such as the above noted notebook computer, in one instance of an interface, specifically using the notebook computer's display 113, from or with the subscriber device will be discussed and described. The notebook computer 113 includes a LAN or local area transceiver 303 functionally identical or compatible with the LAN transceiver 209 for the subscriber device and a link has been established with the portable subscriber device.

[0029] Further included is determining whether the external device is available as an interface to the portable subscriber device at 409. As depicted this includes assessing logical 411 and application level compatibilities 413 between the portable subscriber device and the external device as well as whether any tolls or costs are appropriate 415. One or more of the processes at 413-415 may be initiated by or monitored (a plurality of devices) and approved by the user of the portable subscriber or external device. At 417 displaying availability circumstances and conditions to the user is depicted. At 419 the user is provided an opportunity to approve a proposed interface and an indication of a generic or specific interface is suggested.

If anything is incompatible at 411, 413 or if the user does not approve at 419 the method returns to 403 and the detecting process, preferably, at the users discretion.

While Kotzin uses a singular term "device" to describe step 409, Kotzin clearly teaches that a plurality of external devices/gateways are detected, examined and displayed at step 417 (display availability circumstances and conditions to user). Therefore, the Examiner submits that Kotzin teaches displaying information (at step 417, display availability circumstances and conditions) about (associated with, concerning to) a plurality of external gateways within range of the local-area transceiver (a plurality of external devices described in para. [0016 and 0017], detected in step 403 and examined in step 409).

3) Applicant argues that Mooney is silent to teaching of the claimed "gateway". However, the Examiner respectfully disagrees.

More specifically, the Examiner submits that Mooney teaches a wireless badge 100 used by a wearer as a gateway to access the network and the network security station. Furthermore, Mooney teaches a network security station as a gateway to the user code database and the badge display info database. More specifically, the piconet front end 254 acts as the gateway to the databases 256 and 258.

Thus, based on the plain meaning of the term "gateway", the Examiner submits that Mooney teaches the claimed external gateway.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to WEN W. HUANG whose telephone number is (571)272-7852. The examiner can normally be reached on 10am - 6pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew D. Anderson can be reached on (571) 272-4177. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/W. W. H./
Examiner, Art Unit 2618

/Matthew D. Anderson/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2618